

# Glucose Monitoring



ALLISON BRUNNER, MSN, RN, CDCES

MAY 2021

UW MEDICINE

# Disclosure



The presenter, Allison Brunner, has no conflicts of interest to disclose with relation to the topic being presented today.

# Learning Objectives



- Summarize the purpose of glucose monitoring
- Discuss barriers to glucose self-monitoring, and strategies to minimize these
- Differentiate between personal and professional continuous glucose monitoring options.
- Cover how “time in range” and coefficient of variation are changing the way we look at glucose data

# Blood Glucose Meters of Today



- Faster (<5 seconds)
- Use much less blood (0.3 microliters)
- More convenient (no water or extra steps)
- Accessibility features (language, backlighting, audio)
- More functions (can download, add “notes”, prompts)
- No calibration

# Glucometer Accuracy

Results of a study conducted by The Diabetes Technology Society, 2016-2017

| Brand/Model            | N       | % in limits |  | Brand/Model            | N       | % in limits |
|------------------------|---------|-------------|--|------------------------|---------|-------------|
| Contour Next (Bayer)   | 311/312 | 100%        |  | OneTouch Ultra2        | 280/311 | 90%         |
| AccuChek Aviva Plus    | 306/311 | 98%         |  | Walmart ReliOn Ultima  | 285/319 | 89%         |
| WalMart ReliOn Confirm | 307/317 | 97%         |  | Bayer Contour Classic  | 284/320 | 89%         |
| CVS Advanced           | 307/318 | 97%         |  | Omnis Health Embrace   | 282/319 | 88%         |
| Abbott Freestyle Lite  | 298/312 | 96%         |  | Nipro True Result      | 279/318 | 88%         |
| AccuChek Smart View    | 305/320 | 95%         |  | Nipro True Track       | 167/205 | 81%         |
| WalMart Relion Prime   | 288/312 | 92%         |  | Biosense Medical Solus | 244/320 | 76%         |
| OneTouch Verio         | 294/319 | 92%         |  | Advocate Redi-Code     | 241/319 | 76%         |
| Prodigy Auto Code      | 282/312 | 90%         |  | Gmate Smart (Philosys) | 226/320 | 71%         |

## FDA requirements - 2019

- 95% of values must be within +/- 12% for blood sugars above 75mg/dL
- 98% must be within 15%

Klonoff, DC et al. August 2018. Investigation of the Accuracy of 18 Marketed Blood Glucose Monitors. *Diabetes Care*, 41, 1681-1688.

# Barriers to Patients Self-Monitoring BG

| Barrier               | Possible Solutions/Helps                                    |
|-----------------------|---|
| Physical              | Prescribe special meter, lancet device or CGM               |
| Financial             | Ensure preferred brand, consider generic                    |
| Cognitive             | Teach and reteach, simplify regimen                         |
| Lack of Understanding | Explain relevance, ask questions                            |
| Lack of HCP Support   | LOOK at data, discuss values and recognize efforts          |
| Time/Schedule         | Optimize testing schedule, coordinate with patient          |
| Lack of Convenience   | Prescribe a 2 <sup>nd</sup> meter; place meter in easy spot |
| Privacy Issues        | CGM, optimize testing schedule                              |
| Emotional/pain        | Technique/equipment; help pt view BGs differently           |

Tenderich, A. (2013). Use of blood glucose meters among people with type 2 diabetes: Patient perspectives. *Diabetes Spectrum*, 26(2):67-70

Swigert, T. (2013). Blood glucose monitoring: Overcoming the obstacles. *AADE In Practice*, 28-34

# Tips for Self-Monitoring BG

- Set lancet dial to lowest number needed to get a drop
- Wash hands with warm water and soap rather than alcohol
- Use side of finger vs pad (see photos)
- Talk to patients about sharps disposal



Don't poke the pad! Ouch!



Poke the side of the finger!

# More Tips for Self-Monitoring BG

## DO's

- Store supplies as directed
- Change lancet every time!
- Rotate sites
- Check time & date of meter  
(especially after battery change!)
- Bring meter or logbook to  
every visit

## DON'Ts

- Share your meter or lancets
- Use expired test strips
- Expose strips to air, heat,  
humidity or light
- Over-milk your finger



# CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORS

- Medtronic Guardian
- Dexcom G6
- Libre 2 or 14 day Libre



Compatible smart devices sold separately. [dexcom.com/compatibility](https://dexcom.com/compatibility)



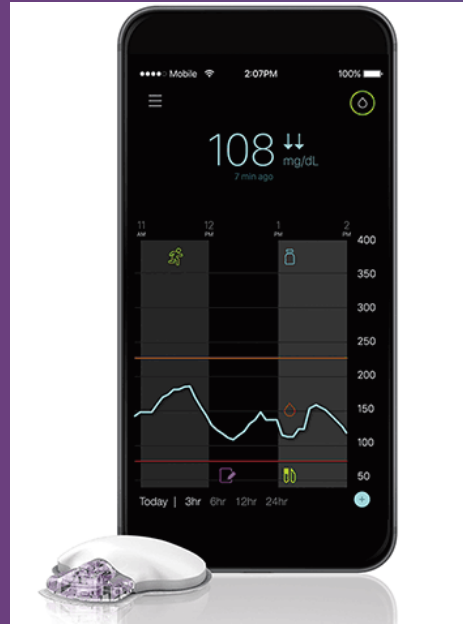
# Continuous Glucose Monitoring

- Small and inconspicuous
- Measures glucose in interstitial fluid (versus blood)
- New glucose data every 5 minutes!
- Gives glucose AND glucose trend (direction)
- Now integrated into some pump systems
- Fingertick calibration requirements vary
- Sensor worn for 7 to 14 days (10-14 for “Pro”)
- Can be expensive (not covered for all patients)
- Now Bluetooth enabled (some systems)
- Accuracy has improved significantly
- Future uses: inpatient, artificial pancreas
- **Patients still need their meters!**

# CGM Options - Medtronic

## Medtronic Guardian Connect®

- 60-min predictive high/low
- iPhone/smart watch is the receiver with push alerts
- Rechargeable transmitter (lasts for a year or more)
- 2+ calibrations per day
- 7 day wear
- Not covered by Medicare



## Medtronic Guardian®

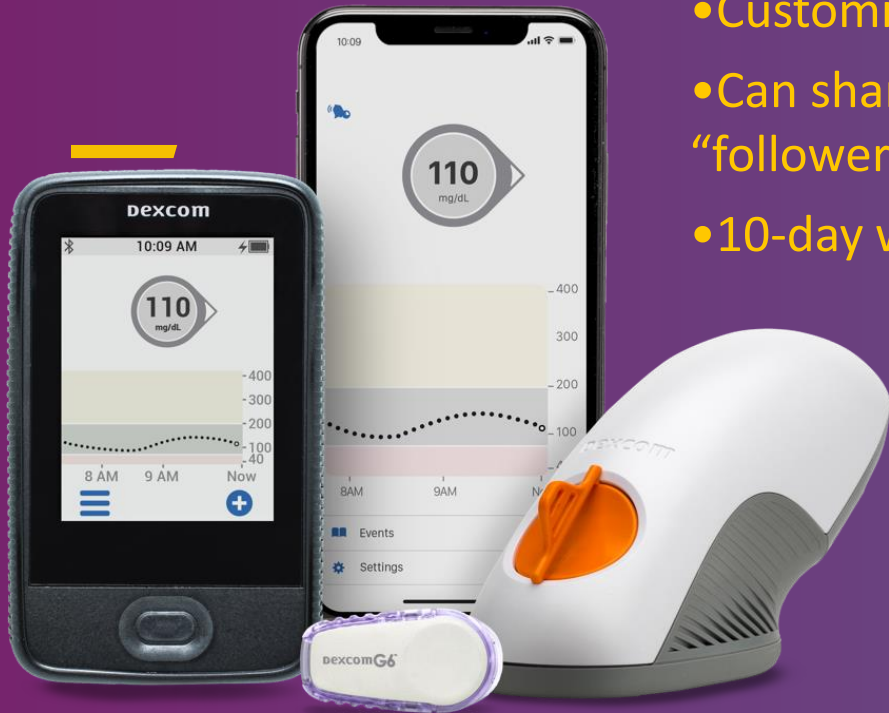
- With pump only (670G or 770G)
- 2 calibrations per day
- 7-day wear
- Not covered by Medicare

# CGM Options - Dexcom

## Dexcom G6®

- Bluetooth enabled: links to a “receiver” or cell phone app (not compatible with all phones)
- Customizable alerts
- Can share data with clinic or “followers”
- 10-day wear

- NO fingerstick calibrations required; instead, must enter a 4-digit code for each new sensor
- 2-hour warm-up
- Easy inserter device
- Can be used alone or with Tandem pump
- More accurate in low ranges than other options



Compatible smart devices sold separately. [dexcom.com/compatibility](https://dexcom.com/compatibility)

# CGM Options – Freestyle Libre

## Freestyle Libre 14 day<sup>®</sup>

(Also sometimes called “Libre 1”)

- Works with reader or cell phone app
- Does not have alarms

## Freestyle Libre 2<sup>®</sup>

- Works with reader only
- Has alarms



## Both have these features

- 14-day wear
- Easy insertion
- 1-hour warm-up
- Available at most pharmacies
- Least expensive CGM option

# Pro CGM Options – Libre & Dexcom G6



## Libre Pro

- 14 day wear
- Data is logged in the device, nothing for patient to carry
- Disposable applicator
- Placement done in office
- Removal/download can be done in office or pt can mail back



## Dexcom G6 Pro

- 10 day wear
- Can be “blinded” or “unblinded”
- Blinded - Data is logged in the device, nothing for patient to carry
- Unblinded – connects to patient’s phone through app
- Disposable applicator
- Placement done in office
- Removal/download can be done in office or unblinded patients can send data via Clarity



# CGM Reports

## CGM Glucose Pattern Summary *LibreView*

October 22, 2018 - November 5, 2018 (15 Days)

CGM Device: FreeStyle Libre Pro [N/A]% Compliant w/Calibration\* 100% Time Worn

\*Not applicable to FreeStyle Libre or FreeStyle Libre Pro which do not require calibration.

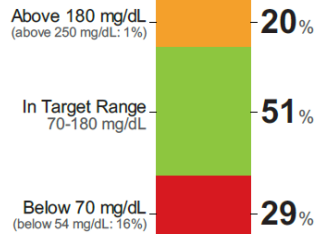
### Summary

#### Average Glucose

**119**  
mg/dL

88-116\*

#### Time In Range



#### Coefficient of Variation (CV)

**50.8%**

19-25\*

#### Standard Deviation (SD)

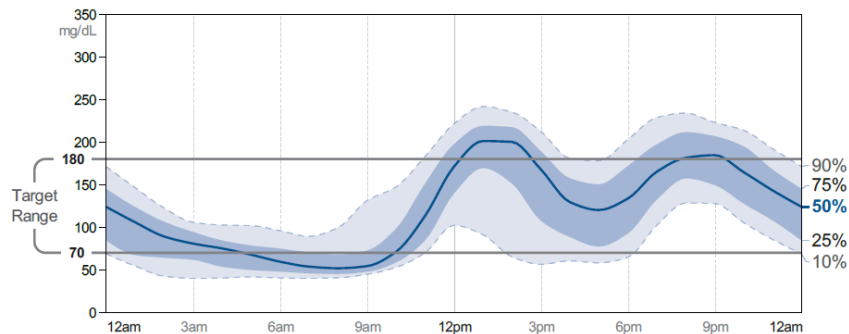
**60.4**  
mg/dL

10-26\*

\*Reference ranges calculated from population without diabetes.

### Ambulatory Glucose Profile

Curves/plots represent glucose frequency distributions by time regardless of date



### Statistics for this date range

#### Average Glucose

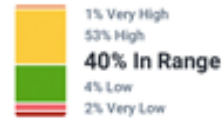
**132**  
mg/dL

Standard Deviation  
**55** mg/dL

#### GMI

**7.9** %

#### Time in Range



Target Range: 70-180 mg/dL

#### Sensor Usage

Days with CGM Data

**100**  
14/14

Avg. calibrations per day

**0**

### Patterns for this date range

Nighttime Highs



Daytime Highs



Best Day



### Devices



Dexcom G6 Mobile App



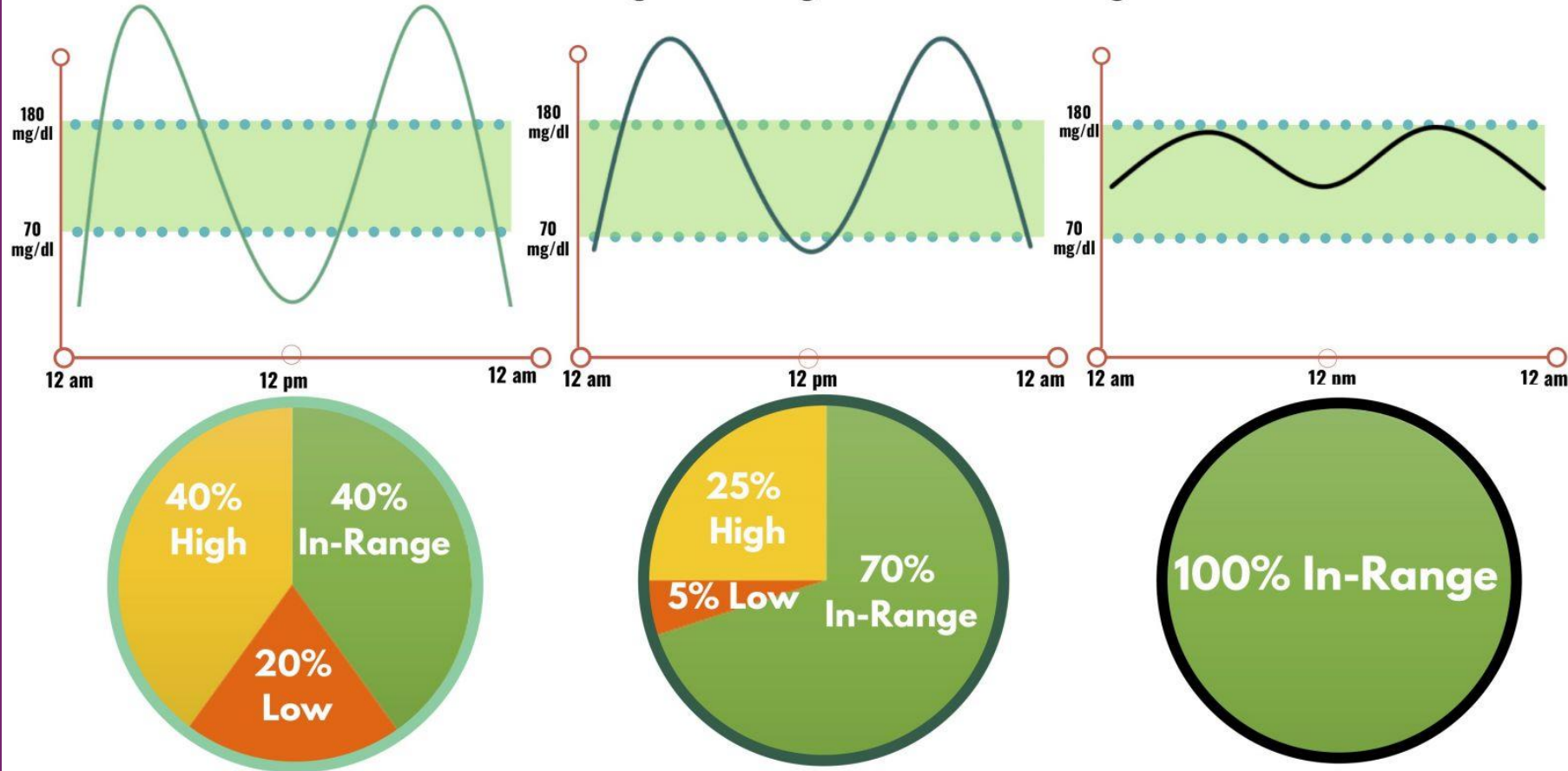
Formats are different, but all include:

- Time in Range- TIR
- Coefficient of Variation – CV
- Trends
- Daily view
- Analysis of number of hypo events

# Why TIR matters!

## THE MANY FACES OF A 7% A1C

(and an average blood glucose of 154 mg/dl)





# Professional CGM Billing

- Medicare and most private insurances are covering professional CGM.
- Insurance, incl. Medicare, covers this procedure (sensor placement and interpretation) for DM.
  - CGM Placement/Removal/Reporting (code 95250): can be done by RN, MA, etc. Estimated reimbursement approx. \$250
  - CGM data analysis and interpretation (CPT code 95251) can be added to E/M service or done independently. Can be used for clinic-provided (pro) system or patient-provided (personal) system. Can not be billed more frequently than every 30 days.
- For more info: <https://provider.dexcom.com/coding>
- Need at least 72 hours of data to bill.

# References

1. American Diabetes Association (2020): Standards of medical care in diabetes—2018. *Diabetes Care*, 37(1), S14-S61
2. Swigert, T. (2013). Blood glucose monitoring: Overcoming the obstacles. *AADE In Practice*, 28-34.
3. Tenderich A. (2013). Use of blood glucose meters among people with type 2 diabetes: patient perspectives. *Diabetes Spectrum*, 26(2):67-70

# QUESTIONS?

